Category	Amount of Central subsidy per plant
Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe, desert districts, small and marginal farmers, landless labourers, Terai region of Uttaranchal, Western Ghats and other notified hilly areas.	Rs. 2300/-
All Others	Rs. 1,800/-

Closure of Bharat Gold Mines Ltd., KGF

*238. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) how many employees of Bharat Gold Mines Limited, KGF who lost their jobs due to closure of the above organisation;

(b) whether Government have taken steps to rehabilitate those who lost their jobs; and

(c) if so, the details of the rehabilitation programmes taken up by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) The total number of employees in the company prior to the date of closure, *i.e.* 1.3.2001 was 3556. However the matter of winding up under Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985/closure under Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 of the company is *sub-judice* before High Court of Karnataka because of the litigation started by the employees. The Government has been offering Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) and Voluntary Separation Scheme (VSS) from time to time. Even after closure order effective from 1.3.2001 the Government has introduced Special Terminal Benefit Package (STBP) for one month in October 2002. The STBP allowed the erstwhile employees an option to choose either Heavy Industry package of Gujarat package of voluntary separation on the lines of the package offered in December, 2000. The employees opting for STBP were also offered hutments at reasonable price. Prior to the closure of the company, BGML was giving re-training to the rationalised employees for gaining alternative employment as part of its rehabilitation efforts. From the financial year 2001-02, the Government has started a scheme for counselling re-training and redeployment of the rationalised employees of Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) on their separation due to VRS/VSS or retrenchement.